

REMARKS

The office action of December 21, 2006 has been carefully considered.

It is noted that the drawings are objected to under 37 C.F.R. 1.83(a).

Claim 19 is objected to for containing various informalities.

Claims 11-15, 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over the patent to Ramsden.

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Ramsden in view of the patent to Tashima, et al.

Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Ramsden in view of the patent to Browne, et al.

Finally, it is noted that claim 19 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

In view of the Examiner's various objections and rejections, applicant has canceled claims 16-20, amended claims 11, 14 and 15, and added new dependent claims 21 and 22.

In connection with the Examiner's objection to the drawings, applicant has canceled claims 16 and 20. Thus, there is no longer a need for illustrating the waste gates recited in these claims.

In view of these considerations, it is respectfully submitted that the objection to the drawings is overcome and should be withdrawn.

With the cancellation of claim 19, it is respectfully submitted that the objection to this claim as containing informalities is also overcome and should be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims now on file differ essentially and in an unobvious, highly advantageous manner from the constructions disclosed in the references.

Turning now to the references, and particularly to the patent to Ramsden, it can be seen that this patent discloses a turbocharger assembly having three turbochargers and a supporting enclosure 9. Ramsden does not disclose a third exhaust gas turbocharger arranged centrally between the first and second turbochargers so that exhaust gas flows through all three turbochargers in parallel, as in the presently claimed invention. Clearly, the turbocharger does not show a third turbocharger arranged as in the presently claimed invention. The third turbocharger of Ramsden is ahead of the other two, which requires a larger housing. The unique construction of the presently claimed invention allows the housing to be smaller than was previously possible.

In view of these considerations, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 11-15, 17 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over the above-discussed reference is overcome and should be withdrawn.

The remaining references, which were cited in combination with Ramsden in rejecting claims 6 and 20 have also been considered. Applicant submits that neither of these references provides any teachings which when combined with Ramsden would suggest the invention recited in the claims presently on file.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections of claims 6 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) are overcome and should be withdrawn.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

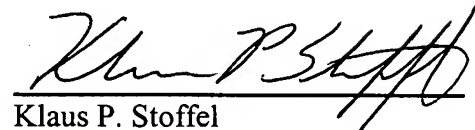
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Signature

April 24, 2007
Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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